Allowing higher education institutions to raise tuition for graduate schools of business

SB 1521 Zaffirini (Morrison)

DIGEST: SB 1521 would have authorized the governing board of a higher education

institution to set tuition for its graduate school of business at a rate up to three times the statutory tuition rate prescribed by Education Code, ch. 54, subch. B. Current

law allows governing boards to set tuition in this range for law schools.

GOVERNOR'S REASON FOR VETO: "I support the goal of increased tuition flexibility for institutions of higher education and have signed House Bill No. 3015 [by Morrison] to accomplish that goal. Senate Bill No. 1521, which would allow institutions to raise the tuition for graduate schools of business to the same level as law schools, does not achieve the comprehensive deregulation already provided in House Bill No. 3015. For that

reason, Senate Bill No. 1521 is unnecessary."

RESPONSE: Sen. Judith Zaffirini, author of SB 1521, said: "This bill would have allowed the

board of regents of institutions of higher education to set tuition rates for graduate business programs in the same manner as they do for law school and pharmacy programs. HB 3015, relating to tuition deregulation, allows a governing board of an institution of higher education to set a different tuition rate for each program and course level offered. The governor's veto indicates that he believes the intent and

provisions of SB 1521 are included in the broader language in HB 3015."

Rep. Geanie Morrison, the House sponsor, was unavailable for comment.

NOTES: SB 1521 passed the House on the Local, Consent, and Resolutions Calendar and

was not analyzed in a Daily Floor Report. HB 3015 was analyzed in Part One of

the April 28 Daily Floor Report.